(a) whether the TV Serial 'Chanakya' was served notice to cut short its number of episodes;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor?

(c) whether any representation has been made against the 'Saffron' colour of the flag and the war-cries of 'Har Har Mahadeo' depicted in the serial, if so, the reaction of the Government thereto, and

(d) whether some scenes from serial have been deleted, if so the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INFORMATION AND BROADCASTING (KUMARI GIRIJA VYAS) (a) and (b) Yes, Sir This was done after it was found that the extension beyond the originally sanctioned 26 episodes had been conveyed to the producers without due authorisation from the competent authority Later, however, after discussions with the producers the serial has been allowed to be completed in 47 episodes

(c) According to Doordarshan, no specific complaint was received in this received

(d) According to Doordarshan, there was an unnecessary lenghty scene of saffron flags and slogans of Har Har Mahadev The producer was requested to reduce the duration of the scene The saffron flags and slogans did, however, figure in the final version that was telecast

[*English*]

Effect of Decontrol of Steel on States

1961 SHRI E AHAMED
SHRI ANBARASU ERA

Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state

(a) whether recent decision of the Government to decontrol steel prices will adversely affect States including Kerala,

(b) if so, the steps taken or propose to be taken to ensure that steel proces do not fluctuate from State to State beyond a reasonable limit

(c) whether any study of the impact on the States where there is no steel plant has been made in this regard, and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) (a) and (b) Effect of deregulation of steel prices, as such would not be State-specific After abolition of the freight equalisation scheme with effect from 16 1 92, the freight mechanism has been restructured The freight ex-stockyard now payable by consumers, including those in Kerala, would be either the actual freight upto a stockyard or, Rs 956 per tonne in the case of steel and Rs 645 per tonne in the case of pig iron (till these are revised), whichever is lower Statewise price differentials, on this account, would thus be limited to these ceilings and the actual freights for different States

(c) No, Sir

(d) Does not arise

[*Translation*]

Posting of Technical Employees to Non-Technical and Vice Versa in Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Ltd

1962 SHRI ARJUN SINGH YADAV Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state

(a) whether the technical employees are being posted at non-technical posts in Mahanagar Telephone Nigam Ltd for the last many years,

(b) if so, the reasons thereof,

(c) whether the Government propose to post persons having technical employees in technical posts and non-technical employees in non-technical posts only and

(d) if not, the reasons thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P V RANGAYYA NAIDU) (a) and (b) Posts which are basically administrative in nature but also require technical knowledge for better effectiveness are being manned by technocrats having the required exposure in administration/administrative matters

(c) and (d) Deployment of employees is done on the basis of job requirement and it is not feasible to demarcate posts into technical and non-technical, especially at the higher levels

[*English*]

Allotment surrender of Telephones

1963 SHRI LOKANATH CHOUDHURY Will the Minister of COMMUNICATIONS be pleased to state

(a) whether various ministers/departments of the Central Government has surrendered 10 per cent of the telephone lines as per the directions issued by the Prime Minister in this regard,

(b) if so, what was the number of lines available to the communication department thereby and

(c) whether these lines have been allotted to the applicants registered for telephone connections, if so, the details thereof?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMUNICATIONS (SHRI P V RANGAYYA NAIDU) (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be placed on the Table of the House

Modernisation of Bhilai Steel Plant

1964 KUMARI PUSHPA DEVI SINGH Will the Minister of STEEL be pleased to state

(a) the steps taken for the modernisation of Bhilai Steel Plant in Madhya Pradesh,

(b) the amount earmarked therefor, and

(c) the details of the work done under the modernisation programme, so far?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF STEEL (SHRI SONTOSH MOHAN DEV) (a) Though there are some specific schemes proposed during the VIII Five Year Plan to be taken up in Bhilai Steel Plant, there is no comprehensive project for its modernisation

(b) and (c) Do not arise

[*Translation*]

National Power Transmission Corporation

1965 SHRI NITISH KUMAR Will the Minister of POWER AND NON CONVENTIONAL ENERGY SOURCES be pleased to state

(a) whether the Government have set up a separate Institute to curb the losses incurred due to power transmittance in the country,